

### *Discusses American-Made Energy on his “Make It in America” Tour*

Las Cruces, NM – On Monday, Harry Teague continued his “Make It in America” tour by hosting a Biofuels Opportunity Open House in Las Cruces. The event, which featured local biofuel experts and industry leaders, focused on the expansion of biofuel production in New Mexico, important advances in the industry, and offered information on job opportunities and training for small businesses and individuals interested in entering the industry.

“New Mexico is on the forefront of alternative energy development, especially biofuels. Our state home to the world’s first two integrated algal biofuel refineries, one in Luna County and one in Artesia. The potential to create thousands of biofuels jobs here in Southern New Mexico is huge and happening now,” Harry Teague said. “Biofuel production is a crucial aspect of my ‘Do it All, Do it in New Mexico’ energy plan to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, boost the local economy, and make it in America. Growing and strengthening our alternative energy industries will create jobs and put New Mexicans back to work.”

Presentations focused on the impact of biofuels on the local economy, the science behind the industry, and an update on the integrated algal biorefinery being built by Sapphire Energy in Columbus, New Mexico, as well as Harry Teague’s work in Congress to advance biofuel development and production. Participants in the event included representatives from Southwest Biofuels Association, Sapphire Energy, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico State University, Dona Ana Community College, and the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management.

"Las Cruces has tremendous potential in the biofuels field. We have the necessary resources, from business development with Sapphire Energy to the educational and research work being done here at NMSU, as well as the workforce to put it in to action," said Dr. Meghan Starbuck, a professor at NMSU who discussed current research and science advances at the open house. "Congressman Teague has been very effective in promoting energy for New Mexico, and this includes renewable fuels. He has been a positive part of the process, and his Algae-based Renewable Fuel Promotion Act will have tremendous benefits for our state."

Recently, the House of Representatives passed Harry Teague's legislation aimed at growing New Mexico's renewable energy industry. The Algae-based Renewable Fuel Promotion Act (HR 4168) aims to make algae-based biofuels eligible for the same tax incentives available for cellulosic biofuels by expanding the definition of cellulosic biofuel to include algae for the cellulosic biofuel producer credit and the bonus depreciation allowance for cellulosic biofuel plant property.

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